

**California Department of Health Services  
Implementing Chapter 241, Statutes of 2006 (SB 162/Ortiz)  
ORGANIZATION OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

The organization of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) provides the structure needed to carry out its mission through the programs under its jurisdiction.

CDPH shares the broad mission of protecting and improving the health of all Californians with the Department of Health Care Services. To accomplish this CDPH administers a broad range of population-based public and environmental health programs which

- Promote healthy lifestyles and appropriate use of health services
- Prevent disease, disability and premature death
- Protect the public from unhealthy and unsafe environments
- Provide or ensure access to critical public health services
- Enhance public health emergency preparedness and response

Following this broad outline, the Department's structure organizes public health responsibilities into programmatic Centers, each of which emphasizes a distinct aspect of public health –preventing chronic disease, injury, and environmental and occupational exposures; combating infectious diseases; promoting family health; regulating the environment and providing quality services through licensed providers. These Centers provide high level visibility on important public health issues to local health departments, health care providers, the federal government, the Legislature, advocates, the press, and the general public.

Two other major public health functions—Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Health Information and Strategic Planning—crosscut the five programmatic Centers, complementing their activities and strengthening California's public health system.

The programmatic Centers and the crosscutting functions are supported by the other organizations within the Department (e.g., Legal Services, Administration, Information Technology Services, etc.). The Associate Director of External Affairs manages the Department's contact with external public health partners through Public Affairs, Legislative and Governmental Affairs, the Office of Multicultural Health, the Office of Binational Border Health, and the Public Health Advisory Committee.

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